GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:464
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2003
SHORTAGE OF OBSTETRIC CARE DRUGS IN HOSPITALS AND PHCS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;NIVEDITA MANE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is low availability of essential obstetric care drugs, resuscitation bags and new born care equipment in the hospitals and health care centres in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure the availability of such equipment/drugs in all the health care centres and hospitals in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 464 FOR 23.4.2003

A facility survey conducted in government health facilities in 221 districts in the country during 1998- 1999, revealed that 21% Primary Health Centres (PHCs), 29% First Referral Units (FRUs), 15 % Community Health Centres (CHCs) and 30 % district hospitals ha stocks of obstetric care drugs. 35% district hospitals, 36% FRUs and 15% CHCs werefound to have newborn care equipments. The survey did not cover sub - centers.

Under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programmeprovision has been made for supply of essential obstetric care drugs and newborn care equipments at various health facilities keeping in view the capacity of the districts to provide obstetric and newborn services. For this purpose, the districts have been catagorised into A, B, C categories on the basis of Crude Birth Rateand Female Litracy Rates, indicating that A category districts reflect good RCH status, B category medium and C category, alow RCH status. Drugs are being supplied in the form of different kits, directly to the Chief Medical and Health officers of the districts by Government of India.

The major type of drug kits supplied are as under;

Drug Kit-A & Drug Kit-B	These kits are supplied to all sub-centres in rural areas and some health posts in urban areas @ 2 kits per sub center/health post per year. Drug Kit-A contains 5 items for treatment of anemia among women and children and treatment of diarrhea, pneumonia and deficiency of Vitamin A among children. Drug Kit-B contains 10 general purpose drugs for minor ailments. 308635 kits including 27789 for urban areas, each of Kit-A and B have been supplied during 2002-03.
Essential Obstetric Care drug Kits (PHC Drug Kit)	These kits are supplied @ 1 kit each to 50% of PHCs in all `B` category and 30% in all `C` category districts. The kit contains 28 drugs facilitating provision of essential obstetric care and institutional deliveries. 6989 such kits have been supplied to the districts in various states in 2002-2003.
Emergency Obstetric. Care drug kit (FRU Drug Kit)	These kits are supplied to FRUs and CHCs @ 3 kits in all `C` category districts @ 2 kits in all `B` category districts. The kit contains 65 items for facilitating provision of emergency obstetric care. 1157 such kits have been supplied during 2002 -2003 to the districts in various states.

RTI/STI Drug Kits Supplied to FRUs where RTI clinics are established by States (3 kits for all `A` category districts, 2 for all `B` category districts and 1 for all `C` category districts). The kit contains 10 drugs for facilitating treatment of reproductive tract infections/sexually transmitted infections. During 2002-2003, 751 drug kits have been supplied to the districts.

Newborn Care Equipment

Newborn care is an important intervention under the RCH Programme and is being implemented in the districts in aphased manner starting with district with higher infant mortality rates. The objectives of newborn care intervention are (i) to train the medical personnel in Essential newborn care by imparting knowledge related to newborn health, (ii) to transfer the skills involved in the care of newborn baby at birth and thereafter, (iii) to improve neonatal health through effective utilization of available resources, (iv) to ensure effective and appropriate utilization of the equipment supplied for newborn care and (v) to ensure uniform reporting of neonatal health indices.

The supply of equipment is being done along with training of staff in the use of the equipment for resuscitation and treatment of sick newborn with the help of National Neonatology Forum (NNF). The equipment is being supplied in the form of separate kits to PHCs(5 items), CHCs(7 items), FRUs (7 items)and District Hospitals (9 items) in selected districts. The detailsof the items supplied are given at Annexure - I.

During 2002, 60 districts were taken up in 16 States, 80 more districts have been added during 2003 (given in Annexure - II) and there is a plan to include 100 more districts in 2004.

ANNEXURE - I

Essential newborn care equipment kits being supplied to different facilities

ITEM	District Hosp	FRU/CHC	PHCs
Infant Radiant Warmer with Bassinet	4	2	1 (Table Lamp type)
Infant Resuscitation Bag	3	2	1
Oxygen Hoods	2	1	
Infant Weighing Scale	3	2	1
Phototherapy Lamps/Units	1	1	
Laryngoscope	2		
Endotracheal tube	100		
Bassinet	4	2	1
Foot Operated Suction	3	2	1

ANNEXURE - II

Districts covered by NNF in initial phase of Operationalisation of District Newborn Care Under RCH programme

1. Andhra Pradesh	4	Ranga Reddy, Mehboobnagar, Warangal, Medak

2.	Bihar	14	Patna, Nalanda, Madhubani and Chapra	Samastipur, Katihar, Arava, Bhagalpur, Lakhisarai, Jamein, Khargava, Kamur and Buxer
3.	Gujarat	5	Kutch, Banaskantha, Dangs, Pachmahal and Bharuch	
4.	Karnataka	3	Mandya, Mysore, Tumkur	
5.	Maharashtra	4	Satara, Kohlapur, Thane and Nasik	
6.	Madhya Pradesh	16	Ujjain, Khalgaon, Khandawa, Dewas, Dhar, Obaidullaganj	Ratlam, Khargone, Badwani, Shahjapur, Mandsaur, Neemuch, Shivpuri, Bhind, Jhabua and Murena
7	N.E.Region	6	Hailakandi (Assam), Dhubri (Assam), Aizwal (Mizoram), Dharmanagar (Tripura), Imphal Manipur), Tura Meghalya)	
8.	Orissa	14	Bolangir, Sundergarh, Samphalpur, Bargarh	Mayurbhbanj, Balasore, Kendrapada, Puri, Gajapati Nagar, Koraput, Phulbani, Kalahandi, Malkangeri and Sonpur
9.	Punjab	4	Faridkot, Faithgarh, Patiala and Amritsar	
10.	Rajasthan	14	Jodhpur, Jalaur, Pali and Barmer	Dausa, Taunk, Nagore, Sirohi, Bharatpur, Jaisalmer, Sikar, Alwar, Jhunjhunu and Bikaner
11.	Tamil Nadu	5	Dharampuri, Madurai, Dundigal, Tiheni and Salem	
12.	Uttar Pradesh	14	Faizabad, Gonda and Sultanpur	Bahraich Basti, Azamgarh, Siddharth Nagar, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Lakhimpur, Bhadoi, Mirzapur,

				Badaun and Fatehpur
13.	West Bengal	3	Darjeeling, Bankura and Purullia	
14.	Jharkhand	2	West Singhbhum, Palamu	Devgan, Gumla, Banka, Kodarma, Goda, Hazaribagh, Girdih, daltonganj, dumka and Jamra
15.	Uttaranchal	11	Chamoli, Paurigarhwal	Pithoragarh, Haridwar, Dehradun, Naintal, Uttarkashi, Almora, Ranikhet, Udamsingh Nagar and Ramgarh
16.	Chhattisgarh	10		Jadgalpur, Dantewada, Kankar, Jaspur, Raigarh, Korba, Ambikapur, Rajnandgaon, Janigir and Dhamtari